

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR ANIMAL  
AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE  
REQUESTED FOR THE EVALUATION OF  
CLASSICAL SWINE FEVER IN HUNGARY**

27<sup>th</sup> of July, 2008

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## **1. Measures implemented by Hungary at the border with neighbor countries to prevent introduction of CSF**

After classical swine fever had been present in feral pigs and domestic pigs in pig holdings in Romania, measures related to classical swine fever was laid down in European Commission Decision 2006/802/EC.

The Central Agricultural Office (hereinafter: CAO) of Hungary sent an official letter to each affected county's customs authority in order to inform them about the above mentioned Decision. In order to comply with this provision Hungarian customs officers and the immigration officers are entitled to keep the border crossing points under control. Additionally the customs officers perform so-called in depth controls within the territory of the county in which the veterinary authority is also involved on a regular basis.

The measures laid down in Decision 2006/802 EC prohibit inter alia the dispatch of pork, pork products and products containing pork from Romania to other Member States. The above mentioned Decision was in force until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2007. In any case such outbreaks occur in any of the Member States of the European Union, measures to be implemented are immediately laid down in Decisions of the European Commission.

## **2. Organizational structure of the Hungarian veterinary services**

### **2. 1. Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development**

After the reorganization and merger of services in 2006 and 2007, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) is now responsible for most official controls on food and has full responsibility in the areas of feed, animal health, animal welfare and plant protection. The Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour have reduced functions. The Hungarian Food Safety Office has a co-ordination role and has specific tasks, including risk assessment (see Figure 1.)

Within MARD, the Department of Food Chain Safety, Animal and Plant Health was created in August 2006, bringing together animal health and welfare, plant health and food chain safety for food of both animal and non-animal origin. As the Chief Veterinary Officer of Hungary became the State Secretary for Food Chain Control in March 2008, the Department was divided in two.

The Department for Food Chain Control (DFCC) comprises 4 divisions and the Department of Food Chain Development has two divisions, they are responsible for:

- Strategic planning
- Legislation
- International affairs

One of the deputy CVOs is head of DFCC, which is under the control of the State Secretary for Food Chain Control. The head of the Plant Protection, Soil Conservation and Agri-environment Division is the Chief Plant Health Officer.

### **2.2. Central Agricultural Office**

Government Decree 274/2006 established the Central Agricultural Office (CAO) on 1 January 2007, with 1 central office and 19 County Agricultural Offices. The CAO is responsible for implementation of administration and controls. MARD Ministerial Instruction 11/2006 set out the rules of procedure for the CAO. Article 10 assigns an oversight role for the former MARD DFCSAPH on the CAO as regards operational issues.

The head of the CAO is the President (who reports to the Minister of MARD) and comprises three functional areas, each headed by a Deputy President. One of the CAO functional areas covers "Food chain safety". The Deputy President for this function is one of the Deputy CVOs.

The CAO Food chain safety function comprises 5 Directorates and an Audit Division.

In line with Government Decree 138/2007, most functions in relation to food safety which were previously exercised by agencies under the aegis of the Ministry of Health (the National Office of the Chief Medical Officers and the National Institute of Food Safety) were reallocated to the CAO from 1 October 2007 together with 105 experts.

### **2.3. County and local level**

In addition to Budapest, there are 19 County Agricultural Offices (County CAO). These offices are headed by a Director General and comprise four Directorates, of which veterinary service is represented by the County Directorate for Food Chain Safety and Animal Health (County DFCSAH).

The total number of staff in the County DFCSAH is approximately 1,657 full time employees, out of which 800 are official veterinarians and quality controllers who are qualified to university degree level as veterinarians, food engineers or animal nutrition engineers.

### **2.4. The duties of the national authority and local authorities**

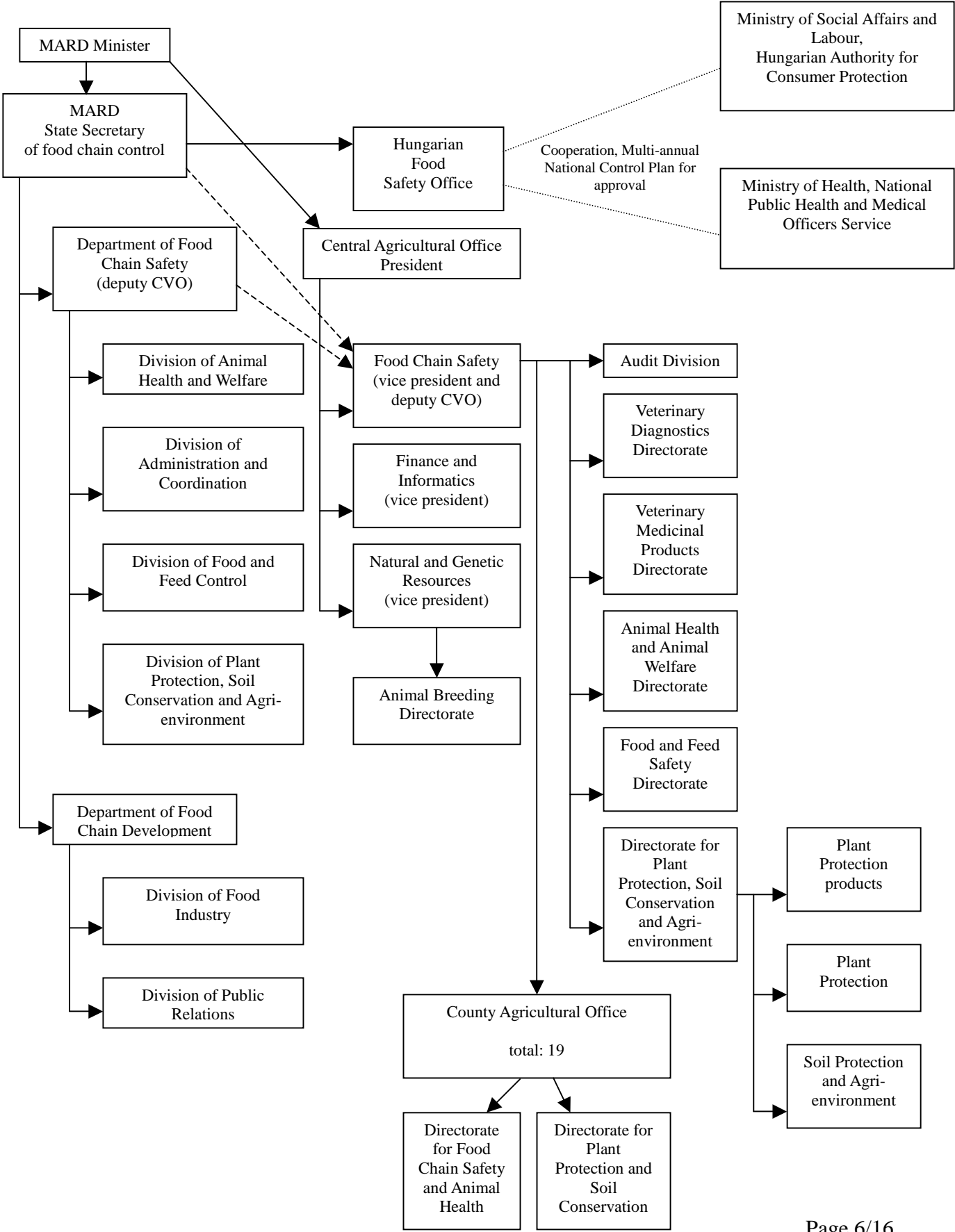
The national authorities are responsible for:

- implementing the Community law;
- preparing new national regulations (adoption of the Commission regulations);
- contact with the OIE (World Organization for Animal Health);
- contact with the European Commission Health & Consumer Protection Directorate-General;
- data collection, analysis, strategy planning;
- coordination of the work of the local authorities (County Agricultural Office Food Chain Safety and Animal Health Directorates);
- central coordination of the control in case of an outbreak of CSF (National Epidemiological Center);
- implementation of the surveillance plans for different animal diseases (including CSF);
- conducting simulation trainings on preparedness for outbreaks;
- risk assessment for the whole country according to the CSF (ie. migration of wild boars)

The local authorities are responsible for:

- controlling that all animal keepers are working in compliance with the law;
- updating all data concerning the animal health status (ie. number of animals of different species, number of holdings, etc.) and forwarding these data to the central authorities;
- local coordination of the control in case of an outbreak of CSF (Local Epidemiological Center).

**Figure 1. Overview of control authorities of food and feed safety in Hungary**



### 3. Current veterinary staffing levels at the central and county offices

#### 3.1. Staffing in MARD (under the control of State Secretary for Food Chain Control)

The maximum approved number of staff controlled by the State Secretary for Food Chain Control is 45 allocated as follows:

**Table 1**  
**Staffing in MARD**

Department, Unit	Division	Maximum number of staff	Filled
State secretariat		5	5
<b>Department of Food Chain Control</b>		<b>26</b>	<b>25</b>
	Head and Deputy Head of Department and Administrator	3	2
	Division of Animal Health and Welfare	4	4
	Division of Administration and Coordination	5	5
	Division of Food and Feed Control	5	5
	Division of Plant Protection, Soil Conservation and Agri-environment	9	8
<b>Department of Food Chain Development</b>		<b>14</b>	<b>10</b>
	Head and Deputy Head of Department	2	1
	Division of Food Industry	9	8
	Division of Public Relations	3	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>45</b>	<b>40</b>

### 3.2. Staffing in the CAO (under the control of Deputy President for Food Chain Safety)

The total number of staff is 533 allocated as follows:

**Table 2**  
**Staffing in the CAO (Food Chain Safety)**

<b>Unit</b>	<b>Maximum number of staff</b>	<b>Filled</b>
Deputy President's office	3	3
Audit Division	5	5
Directorate for Veterinary Diagnostics (including two regional laboratories at Debrecen and Kaposvár)	201	201
Directorate for Veterinary Medicinal Products	58	58
Directorate for Animal Health and Animal Welfare	21	21
Food and Feed Safety Directorate	170	170
Directorate for Plant Protection, Soil Conservation and Agri-environment	75	75
<b>Total</b>	<b>533</b>	<b>533</b>

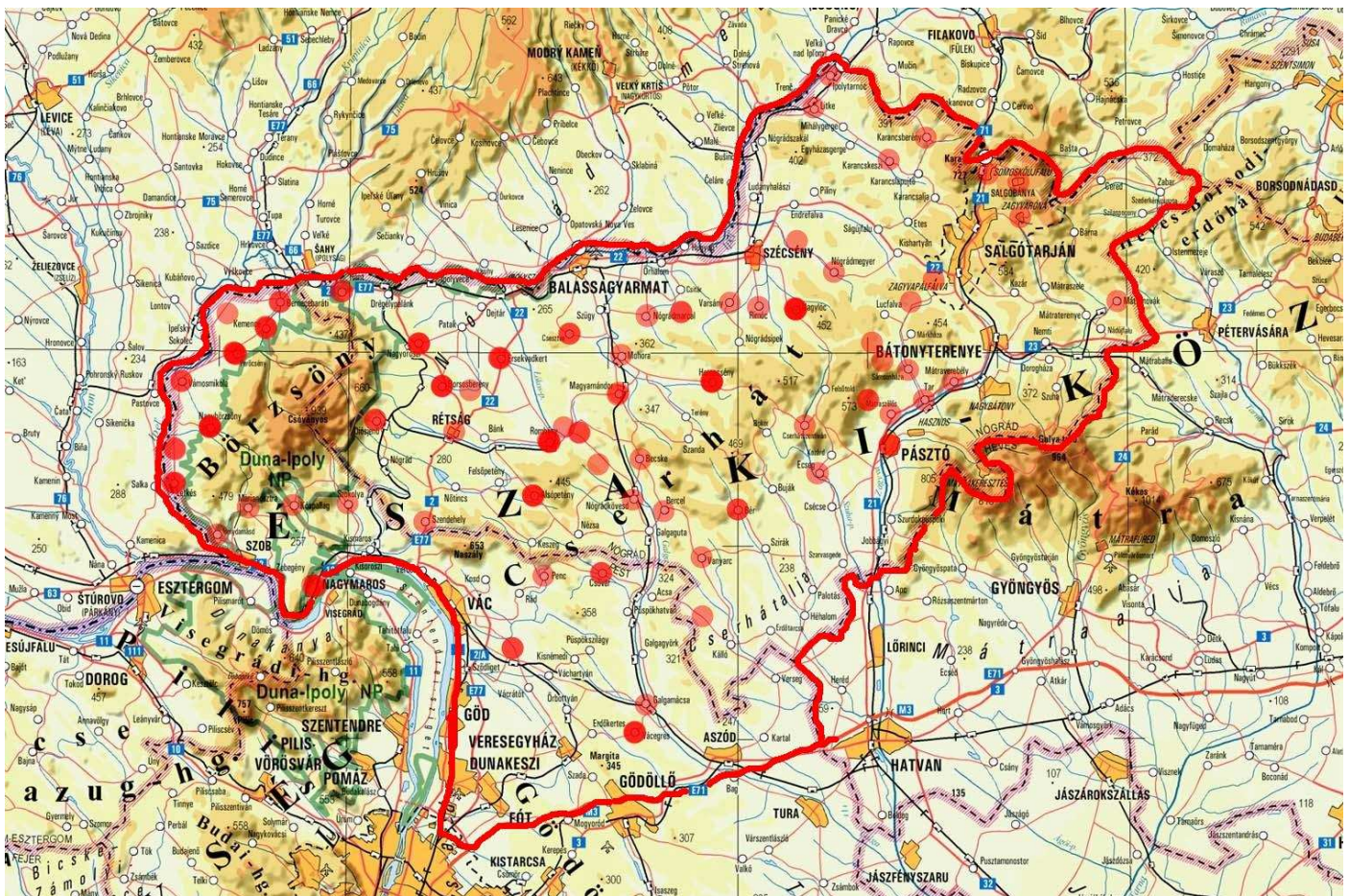


#### 4. Epidemiological situation in wild boar in Nógrád and Pest counties

In hunting year 2007 (01 March 2007 – 29 February 2008) there were 81 virologically positive cases in Nógrád county and 71 virologically positive cases in Pest county in wild boars.

In hunting year 2008 there were 20 virologically positive cases in Nógrád county and 12 virologically positive cases in Pest county during the period of 01 March 2008 – 31 May 2008.

Hereunder please find a map showing the location of the positive cases.



Although there has been no other outbreaks apart from the territory of these two counties, taking into account the Hungarian epidemiological situation related to classical swine fever, the Hungarian National Classical Swine Fever Expert Team, suggested the extension of the infected area since the administrative border of Nógrád county does not represent an adequate geographical border.

The extended territory is the following:

The territory of the county of Nógrád and the territory of the county of Pest located north and east of the Danube, south of the border with Slovakia, west of the border with the county of Nógrád and north of the motorway E71, the territory of the county of Heves

located east of the border of the county of Nógrád, south and west of the border with the county of Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén and north of the motorway E71, and the territory of the county of Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén located south of the border with Slovakia, east of the border with the county of Heves, north and west of the motorway E71, south of the main road No.37 (the part between the motorway E71 and the main road No.26) and west of the main road No.26 .

## **5. National legislation on animal by-products**

New national Decree has not been issued yet on animal by-products, not intended for human consumption so Decree 71/2003(VI.27.) MARD is still in force. The legislative procedure is in progress.

## **6. Animal Health Act**

The Animal Health Act in force is the Act on Animal Health CLXXVI of 2005. This Act has been amended many times (please find attached the version in force now) and is valid till 31<sup>st</sup> August 2008. On 1<sup>st</sup> September 2008 a new Act will come into force, Act on Food Chain and its Official Supervision XLVI of 2008. Based on principle “From farm to Fork” or “From Stable to Table”, this Act takes into consideration, that soil conservation, plant health, plant protection, feeding, animal health, food safety and food quality issues are connected and may not be separated.

With this act, a unified official supervision is created and this guarantees that in any case problem occurs at any point of food chain, authority can take measures rapidly and easily. Reorganization provide, that any event threatening food chain safety can be followed up easily.

## 7. Suspicious cases in 2006 and 2007

Table 3 shows the suspicious cases that were reported by private veterinarians and were investigated for classical swine fever by virological testing (antigen capture ELISA) in 2006-2007. All of these cases proved to be negative.

**Table 3**  
**Suspicious CSF cases**

County	Number of suspicious cases		Total
	2006	2007	
Bács-Kiskun	4	7	11
Békés	13	8	21
Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén	11	5	16
Csongrád	7	-	7
Győr-Moson-Sopron	2	-	2
Hajdú-Bihar	17	3	20
Heves	4	-	4
Jász-Nagykun	-	1	1
Komárom-Esztergom	4	8	12
Nógrád	6	12	18
Pest	7	7	14
Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg	2	-	2
Veszprém	1	2	3
Baranya, Budapest, Fejér, Somogy, Tolna, Vas, Zala	–	–	–
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>131</b>

## 8. Domestic swine population of Hungary

Table 4 shows the number of pig farms in Hungary in 2007 according to herd size.

**Table 4**  
**Domestic swine population of Hungary, shown separately for every county**

<b>Bács-Kiskun</b>	<i>Number of pig holdings</i>	<i>Number of animals</i>
<i>large-scale</i>	64	259466
<i>small-scale</i>	5388	31515
<b>total</b>	<b>5452</b>	<b>290981</b>
<b>Baranya</b>	<i>Number of pig holdings</i>	<i>Number of animals</i>
<i>large-scale</i>	58	246025
<i>small-scale</i>	4764	58568
<b>total</b>	<b>4822</b>	<b>304593</b>
<b>Békés</b>	<i>Number of pig holdings</i>	<i>Number of animals</i>
<i>large-scale</i>	76	277588
<i>small-scale</i>	6000	110000
<b>total</b>	<b>6076</b>	<b>387588</b>
<b>Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén</b>	<i>Number of pig holdings</i>	<i>Number of animals</i>
<i>large-scale</i>	24	58974
<i>small-scale</i>	3518	15544
<b>total</b>	<b>3542</b>	<b>74518</b>
<b>Csongrád</b>	<i>Number of pig holdings</i>	<i>Number of animals</i>
<i>large-scale</i>	71	289584
<i>small-scale</i>	6677	51890
<b>total</b>	<b>6748</b>	<b>341474</b>
<b>Fejér</b>	<i>Number of pig holdings</i>	<i>Number of animals</i>
<i>large-scale</i>	67	123790
<i>small-scale</i>	2271	11862
<b>total</b>	<b>2338</b>	<b>135652</b>
<b>Győr-Moson-Sopron</b>	<i>Number of pig holdings</i>	<i>Number of animals</i>
<i>large-scale</i>	122	156575
<i>small-scale</i>	4700	20000
<b>total</b>	<b>4822</b>	<b>176575</b>

<b>Hajdú-Bihar</b>	<i>Number of pig holdings</i>	<i>Number of animals</i>
<i>large-scale</i>	49	316100
<i>small-scale</i>	3887	115000
<b>total</b>	<b>3936</b>	<b>431100</b>
<b>Heves</b>	<i>Number of pig holdings</i>	<i>Number of animals</i>
<i>large-scale</i>	24	59435
<i>small-scale</i>	3478	7975
<b>total</b>	<b>3502</b>	<b>67410</b>
<b>Jász-Nagykun-Szolnok</b>	<i>Number of pig holdings</i>	<i>Number of animals</i>
<i>large-scale</i>	51	178167
<i>small-scale</i>	3422	18584
<b>total</b>	<b>3473</b>	<b>196751</b>
<b>Komárom-Esztergom</b>	<i>Number of pig holdings</i>	<i>Number of animals</i>
<i>large-scale</i>	78	108356
<i>small-scale</i>	882	4000
<b>total</b>	<b>960</b>	<b>112356</b>
<b>Nógrád</b>	<i>Number of pig holdings</i>	<i>Number of animals</i>
<i>large-scale</i>	7	18118
<i>small-scale</i>	2643	4998
<b>total</b>	<b>2650</b>	<b>23116</b>
<b>Pest</b>	<i>Number of pig holdings</i>	<i>Number of animals</i>
<i>large-scale</i>	30	74587
<i>small-scale</i>	2710	5241
<b>total</b>	<b>2740</b>	<b>79828</b>
<b>Budapest</b>	<i>Number of pig holdings</i>	<i>Number of animals</i>
<i>large-scale</i>	0	0
<i>small-scale</i>	28	277
<b>total</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>277</b>
<b>Somogy</b>	<i>Number of pig holdings</i>	<i>Number of animals</i>
<i>large-scale</i>	59	95610
<i>small-scale</i>	14200	68700
<b>total</b>	<b>14259</b>	<b>164310</b>
<b>Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg</b>	<i>Number of pig holdings</i>	<i>Number of animals</i>
<i>large-scale</i>	29	92925
<i>small-scale</i>	12017	26002

<b>total</b>	<b>12046</b>	<b>118927</b>
<b>Tolna</b>	<i>Number of pig holdings</i>	<i>Number of animals</i>
<i>large-scale</i>	51	165834
<i>small-scale</i>	2518	18969
<b>total</b>	<b>2569</b>	<b>184803</b>
<b>Vas</b>	<i>Number of pig holdings</i>	<i>Number of animals</i>
<i>large-scale</i>	25	31912
<i>small-scale</i>	3331	14187
<b>total</b>	<b>3356</b>	<b>46099</b>
<b>Veszprém</b>	<i>Number of pig holdings</i>	<i>Number of animals</i>
<i>large-scale</i>	32	98824
<i>small-scale</i>	2505	19252
<b>total</b>	<b>2537</b>	<b>118076</b>
<b>Zala</b>	<i>Number of pig holdings</i>	<i>Number of animals</i>
<i>large-scale</i>	34	66283
<i>small-scale</i>	8147	19201
<b>total</b>	<b>8181</b>	<b>85484</b>
<b>HUNGARY</b>	<i>Number of pig holdings</i>	<i>Number of animals</i>
<i>large-scale</i>	951	2718153
<i>small-scale</i>	93086	621765
<b>total</b>	<b>94037</b>	<b>3339918</b>

## **9. Monitoring of CSF**

### **9. 1. Monitoring in wild boar**

Throughout Nógrád county and specified part of Pest county, all feral pigs shot are systematically subjected to virological and serological testing, and all feral pigs found dead or shot on grounds of abnormal behavior undergo full examination, for a period of two years following the last viropositive case. A clotted blood sample must be taken for serological test, taken the heart, if that is not possible, from the thoracic cavity. For the virological test, a tonsil or, if that cannot be provided, a sample from another lymphoid organ (spleen, lymphatic gland) must be sent to the National Reference Laboratory.

In non-infected areas only serological testing is required within the framework of the national monitoring program wherein the number of samples are determined by the range of the territory of the county and by the estimated number of animals.

Samples are taken for serological and virological tests simultaneously and in case of a serologically positive finding the virological test also must be performed.

According to the latest decision of the Hungarian National Classical Swine Fever Expert Team, samples must be taken and subjected to serological and virological examination at the same time within a radius of 10 kilometers around the infected area. The number of samples are determined similarly to the national monitoring program.

### **9. 2. Public information campaign**

The Hungarian Veterinary Services have cooperation agreements with:

- the hunting authority
- the Hunting Chamber
- the Environmental Protection Office in view of eliminating the disease.

This cooperation includes swine fever prevention activities in the general schedules of these organizations.

Technical information sessions:

- for all veterinary practitioners: every 3 months
- for hunters: every 2 months.

Hunters are informed by documents of the requirements applicable to them. They are informed of the current status of the disease and preventive activities via the local hunting journal.

Local residents are informed by the local government (public address system, billboards).

Leaflets have been issued to pig keepers informing them of the outbreak of classical swine fever and explaining the clinical and pathological symptoms of the disease and their own responsibilities, with special regard to reporting requirements, the regulations applicable and penalties for infringement.

Public information has been disseminated via printed and online press on the outbreak of the

disease and the action to be taken by the local inhabitants. The public is always informed in advance about any preventive action planned as regards with the disease.

Arrangements have been made with the County Police Headquarters and the border police to take any wild pig found dead or run over on the road to the Directorate's animal morgue, and they have been provided with the appropriate equipment (gloves, bag, plastic sheets, disinfectants).

The authority responsible for the implementation of the plan and coordination with the hunting and environmental protection authorities are the Nógrád and Budapest and Pest County Food Safety and Animal Health Directorates.

The CAO Animal Health and Animal Welfare Directorate is responsible for supervising this activity.

Please find attached Nógrád County and the specified part of Pest county eradication program for classical swine fever in feral pigs.